

THE GATEWAY

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Tuesday, 19 March, 2002

<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/gateway/>

Hudema holds first environment meeting

Iva Cheung
NEWS STAFF

Last Thursday, SU President-elect Mike Hudema held the first of his proposed weekly student planning meetings to discuss the direction he will be taking when he assumes office in May.

The hour-long meeting was designed to address the environmental facet of Hudema's election platform and generate ideas regarding potential approaches to make the U of A campus more ecologically conscientious.

Hudema, who is planning on continuing to hold such environmental meetings every other week, was encouraged by attendance at the meeting.

"I hope one of the things people got from [the meeting] was that this project is only going to work if it's all of us. I have some sway because of my position, and I have

more resources at my disposal, but it needs to come from the heart of students," said Hudema.

"I'm completely overjoyed in terms of the diversity of people [in attendance]. I was ecstatic with turnout and the suggestions were great too, and they're attainable."

Over fifty people were present at the meeting, including Edmonton Transit System Community Relations officer Vicki Gudeli, Sierra Club Prairie Chapter Director Sonja Mihelcic, as well as representatives from APIRG. Also in attendance were Vice-President (Operations and Finance) elect Steve Smith and Kail Ross, next year's Vice-President (Student Life).

The meeting covered promises of Hudema's platform, including the elimination use of Styrofoam on campus and encouraging carpooling.

PLEASE SEE "HUDEMA" ON PAGE 2



Nick Pearce / The Dalhousie Gazette

Bear Stephen Parker earned tournament MVP in Halifax as Alberta won its third basketball title. Hoops up on 7.

Barlow champions public healthcare

Suzanne Shoush
NEWS STAFF

The preservation and restoration of a public, not-for-profit, universal healthcare system is the only solution to Canada's current healthcare crises, says Maude Barlow.

Barlow, Volunteer Chairperson of the national advocacy group Council of Canadians, is currently touring the country to discuss Canada's healthcare system. Speaking at the Myer Horowitz Theatre last Thursday, Barlow highlighted what she believed to be the superiority of universal healthcare over the for-profit, privatized American model.

"It becomes a question of redefining healthcare as a basic human right rather than just a basic human need. We cannot allow for [corporations] to make profit from human dignity. The building-blocks of life are not for sale," said Barlow.

"Canada has bought into the worst aspects of the Washington consensus. We are allowing patients to be treated as industrial commodities. These market reforms are a form of neo-feudalism bringing the world to social disaster."

Barlow argued the current movements towards an American style system would only serve to intensify the present healthcare crisis, rather than alleviate it.

Comparing health statistics between Canada and America, Barlow noted a privatized system is less equitable.

Over 45 million Americans are not covered for medical services, but also less efficient than a public system, with American spending twice the amount on healthcare per capita than Canadians.



Patrick Finlay / THE GATEWAY

Maude Barlow, Volunteer Chairperson for the Council of Canadians

Canadians also have the second highest life expectancy in the world compared to America's ranking at 26, as well as a 40 per cent lower infant mortality rate.

Referring to the trend towards market-based globalization, Barlow contended that public medicare is losing favour with increasingly business-friendly governments.

Pinpointing drastic funding cuts by the government as the primary cause behind Canada's deteriorating healthcare system, Barlow argued the present crisis is a result of misguided principles, not just economics. "What we have here is not simply benign neglect. This crisis is a set-up. This is about power. This is about ideologies."

Barlow cautioned strongly against allowing for the inclusion of public services in multi-national trade agreements, such as NAFTA, which would give American healthcare corporations access to the Canadian healthcare sector.

She also blasted the government

for allowing large pharmaceutical corporations to have monopolies on the drug market, making it difficult for generic companies to provide lower cost products.

Barlow suggested the only viable cure to Canada's healthcare crisis is a complete restructuring of the current system in a move toward a community-based primary healthcare system.

"Preventing further privatization of medical services is not enough. We are change agents, not defenders of the status quo. We have to create wellness, not just deal with illness."

She proposed this solution would relieve the stresses currently placed on Canadian hospitals by expanding the healthcare system to include a multidisciplinary team of health professionals capable of providing necessary medicare in the community.

"We need to create ribbons of interdependence. We need to promote sharing for survival, not survival of the fittest."



Today

3 Had enough SU election yet? We've got wrap-up numbers that'll blow your pretty little minds! Ha!

10-11 Skip gets us a math feature in all his "infinite" wisdom. It's about infinity, you see?! Infinite! Get it?! GET IT?

12 The Transformers move into comics! Sweet Mother of Mercy!

Quote for the day

The man who reads nothing at all is better educated than the man who reads nothing but newspapers.

— Thomas Jefferson

This day in the Gateway's history

The Golden Bears hockey squad trounced the Dalhousie Tigers 5-1 at the Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union championship thanks to three powerplay goals on their first four man-advantages. With the win, the Bears became the first team to win back-to-back championships since the U of T Blues.

1979

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Please icicle this newspaper

Lobby group says debt program is ineffectual

David Skinner
THE MUSE

ST JOHN'S (CUP) — The Canadian Federation of Students says the federal government's student-debt reduction program is ineffectual and has helped just a handful of people.

The national Debt Reduction in Repayment program, part of the government's 1998 Canada's Opportunity Strategy, is an education plan that provides financial aid to students.

It gives university graduates extra funding to offset their student debt.

According to CFS national chair Ian Boyko, the program takes students on the basis of income after graduation. The lower a student's income is, the better their chances are for acceptance.

However, Boyko says the program's wage requirements are too low.

"Quite simply, the government has set it up so that the eligibility tables for the program are so incredibly strict that next to no one can qualify," he said.

"In the first year when it was implemented, it only helped 44 students, when it promised to help 12 000 in the 1998 budget."

Boyko worries the program will help fewer and fewer people as time passes.

PLEASE SEE "DEBT" ON PAGE 2

THE GATEWAY

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Contributors

Kati Kovacs, Iva "Fantastic Rad Newsie" Cheung, Gerard McLarney, Suzanne "Super Awesome Ultra Newsie With Mayo and Herring" Shoush, Heather Fucking Adler, Iain Ilich, Bryan Lee, Brendan Procé, Patrick Finlay, Cory Wanless, Daniel Kaszor, Philip Head, Leif Oleson-Cormack, Adam Houston, Tyson Durst, Iva Cheung again for good measure, Julian Cheung, Anthony Easton, Tony Esteves, Bill Benson, C and J, Alex Labarda, and a depressing quantity of limp and mangled wrists.

Replace program with needs-based grants, says CFS

"DEBT" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Jean-Michel Catta, a spokesperson for Finance Canada, challenges the CFS's claims.

"I don't know where their numbers are coming from, but they're not the numbers we have," he said.

Catta says the program is growing. In its first year, the debt reduction program helped 146 applicants, he said. The next year, he says it invested over \$2 million into 467 applicants.

"It is being used, increasingly so," Catta said. "Numbers keep going up. It does meet a need."

There are no plans to change the way the program operates, although the government may try to promote it more, he says.

"It may be that we need to do a bit more to that effect," said Catta.

Boyko remains unsatisfied. Debt

reduction is not even the best way to approach student financial problems, he says.

"In a world of finite resources, in a world of other key priorities, in a world where the government does not want to go back into deficit ... the government has to make choices. It has to decide where its resources are most effective."

— Jean-Michel Catta, spokesperson, Finance Canada

Instead, the CFS would like to see a national system of needs-based grants. This involves distributing unconditional sums of money to students who are in financial

need.

Catta says replacing the loans system with a grants program wouldn't be feasible. Canada faces a number of different priorities, he says, and student debt is just one of several things the federal government has to deal with.

"The government's approach is to focus on those who need financial assistance," he said.

"In a world of finite resources, in a world of other key priorities, in a world where the government does not want to go back into deficit ... the government has to make choices. It has to decide where its resources are most effective."

Boyko, however, says the government needs to take a stand on the debt problem immediately.

"Students can't wait any longer," he said. "We need something to address the crushing debt load."

DEBT PROGRAM FACTS

- The Debt Reduction in Repayment program is a debt relief program introduced by federal government in 1998

- If you have exhausted all avenues and has been out of school for five years, you may apply to have your loan principal reduced if your loan payments exceed a given percentage of your income

- The maximum allowable reduction is \$10 000 or 50 per cent of the principal, whichever is less.

Students 'excited' to provide ecological input

"HUDEMA" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Also discussed was the idea of inviting an environmental group called Destination Conservation to perform an environmental audit of the university, and recommend changes to encourage environmentally conscious practices.

"I think it's really exciting that our new SU president is gung-ho about actually accomplishing one of his platform goals, and I was quite surprised that he was already doing a meeting this week."

— Gretchen Peterson, fourth-year student, Environment and Conservation Sciences

Hudema also invited input from students, who raised numerous

issues including possible means of expanding recycling and composting programs, and reducing waste.

Issues regarding increasing energy and water efficiency, and fostering environmental educational initiatives across campus were also discussed by the audience members.

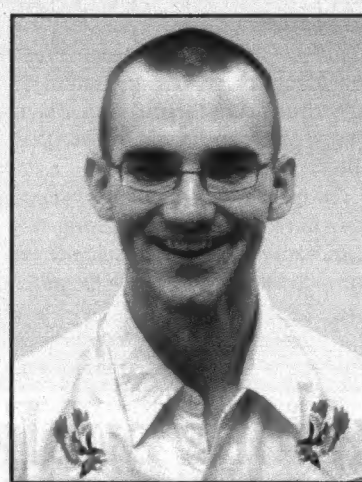
Concluding, Hudema assigned two tasks to those in attendance for the next meeting.

The first task is to find out about the environmental organizations already on campus to better consolidate ecological efforts.

The second is to think over the ideas raised at the meeting and prioritize them in terms of importance and feasibility.

The meeting was greeted with enthusiasm from most who attended.

"I think it's really exciting that our new SU president is gung-ho



Chul-Ahn Jeong / THE GATEWAY

Mike Hudema, SU President-elect

about actually accomplishing one of his platform goals, and I was quite surprised that he was already doing a meeting this week," said Gretchen Peterson, a fourth year Environment and Conservation Sciences student.

Katie Rasmussen, a second-year Animal Biology student, expressed a similar view.

"I think this has been really productive, and I'm excited that there was actually a meeting like this, and that there are going to be more meetings like this, because we have a lot of good ideas."

Hudema plans to hold other student meetings, in alternation with the environmental meetings, to address other points raised in his election platform.

"Hopefully the type of invigoration that we saw today will carry on next year, and hopefully it will spread to other faculties and really prove to students that this year's SU is going to listen to you and does want you to be a part of its process," he noted.

The first of these meetings is scheduled for Thursday, 21 March, at 2:00pm in Tory B-70. All students are invited to attend.

CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Lab suspect confronted

On 13 March at 2:45pm, Campus Security received a report of a suspicious person in a third-floor lab in Corbett Hall.

The complainant told Campus Security that a male suspect had entered the lab and was looking through jackets. The complainant then approached the suspect and asked him to identify himself, at which point the suspect fled.

Campus Security arrived moments later and conducted a search of the area, but the suspect had left.

He is described as a Caucasian male in his 40s, heavyset with blond hair and glasses, and wearing a green hunting jacket with a black collar.

Missing wallet found

On 13 March, a contractor working on the fifth floor of SUB discovered a wallet in the ceiling panel.

Campus Security contacted the owner's residence and spoke to the victim's mother, who informed them the wallet had been stolen from a locker in November 2001. The daughter is currently in Eastern Canada.

Prepping for the Ides

On 14 March at 11:35pm, Campus Security received a report of a fight involving a weapon in the cafeteria in CAB.

Officers arrived to find three males practicing for a play using a real knife. They were given stern warnings and asked to leave.

Waiting for the law

On 14 March, a student auxiliary officer came across a man sleeping in HUB. It was found that he was wanted on several warrants. The man then voluntarily accompanied officers to Campus Security headquarters to await the arrival of Edmonton Police Service (EPS).

Not keeping the peace

On 15 March just before midnight, Power Plant staff reported several males who refused to leave after being asked.

When officers arrived, both were found to be wanted on outstanding warrants. Neither were students. EPS was contacted and both were arrested.

SUB bathroom attack

On 15 March at 11:00am, a man entered Campus Security headquarters to report he had been

assaulted. The alleged assault took place in a first-floor SUB bathroom.

A male approached the victim, said he had been looking for him and began punching him in the face, breaking his glasses in the midst of the melee.

There were no witnesses, but the suspect was known to the victim from an incident that occurred last month off-campus. EPS has taken over the investigation. Both of the participants were students.

Pranksters like primates

On 16 March at 12:30pm, vandals defaced and dismantled poster boards in the Chemistry building.

The vandals had removed several posters and replaced them on different floors upside-down. "Pranking the Monkey" notes written on pieces of paper were left behind. Anyone with information is encouraged to contact Campus Security.

Alleged bar fondler stopped

On 16 March at 2:00am, Powerplant staff reported that a female patron had been fondled near the DJ booth by a male in the area.

When Power Plant staff moved in

to eject the suspect from the premises, a struggle ensued. The man was ejected and Campus Security was contacted.

Officers located the man on 87 Avenue and 112 Street. He had outstanding warrants for his arrest and EPS, which had been called to help locate the male, processed him on the outstanding warrants.

The man has been banned from entering liquor establishments on campus and, as he is a student, additional charges under the Code of Student Behaviour are pending.

Checkstop success

The Checkstop held by Campus Security from 15 to 16 March from 9:00pm to 2:00am has been considered a success.

The stop was conducted on 110 Street and 87 Avenue by five members of Campus Security with a total of 350 vehicles stopped.

There were no impaired charges laid, two 24-hour suspensions, ten liquor-related charges, 17 Highway Traffic Act violations and one possession of narcotic and paraphernalia incident that didn't result in charges being laid. The next Checkstop will be conducted in April.

Compiled by Barrie Tanner (btanner@ualberta.ca)

SU election facts and figures

How you voted, and where, and why, and ... why not?



File photo: Patrick Finlay / THE GATEWAY
Alex Ragan, Chief Returning Officer

Jhenifer Pabillano
Andra Olson
Dan Lazin
NEWS STAFF

The Students' Union elections are over for another year, but this one is going to be hard to forget.

This year's electoral events drew great attention for their audacity, irony, and ability to astonish the campus completely.

A brief but engaging summary: Kelly Shinkaruk posed nude for her posters, Steve Smith won a mere by eight votes, posters were torn down everywhere, complaints were filed left and right, candidates slammed each other in the forums, and the *Edmonton Sun* somehow became interested in SU election coverage.

Therefore, in an effort to sum up this lengthy election in a concise format, the *Gateway* has compiled a list of numbers to break down the arduous campaign of 2001/2002.

Most numbers have been supplied by the SU Chief Returning Officer (CRO) Alex Ragan, the chief elections official in SU elections.

Total cost of SU elections.....	\$50 000
Campaign money allocated per regular candidate.....	\$600
Campaign money allocated per joke candidate	\$300
Campaign money allocated for Gateway referendum	\$1000
Cost of Alexis Pepin's campaign, the most expensive	\$597.14
Cost of the Nobody campaign, the least expensive	\$122.88
Cost of armoured car to escort ballots from SUB to accountants' office, as required by SU Executive	\$800
Value of fines levied against candidates for bylaw infractions	\$560
Amount by which the SU's appeal board reduced those fines	\$412.50
Pieces of campaign material produced by Geoff Dixon, the most from any candidate	5000
Total length of candidates' forums, in hours	12
Official complaints to the Chief Returning Officer (CRO)	18
Decisions of the CRO taken to the SU's appeal board	8
Time spent in election-related appeals, in hours	16
Estimated number of posters that "disappeared"	2100
Candidates disqualified	1
Candidates who came really close to being disqualified	4
<i>Edmonton Sun</i> articles about the elections	4
Times the <i>Sun</i> called the CRO a "midget media Stalinist"	1
Irony index, then, of the CRO officially noting that the "credibility of the <i>Sun</i> newspaper [is] arguably far greater than any available media source on campus"	6974.3
Number of polling stations	24
Most popular polling location, with 1 meaning CAB and anything else meaning not-CAB	1
Poll captains	7
Total hours worked by those poll captains	150
Poll captains' hourly wage	\$8.00
Total hours worked by the CRO, by his count	680
Honorarium paid to the CRO	\$3600
CRO's effective hourly wage, then	\$5.29
Volume of pencils used at polling stations, in cubic feet	2
Total votes cast	5853
Total votes cast in Gateway referendum	4751
Percentage of those votes in favour	74.1
Votes for disqualified candidate Kelly Shinkaruk	329
Votes separating VP (Operations & Finance)-elect Steve Smith from second-placer Adam Cook	8
Votes separating Cook from third-placer Donal Finegan	20
People who voted more than once	10
Spoiled ballots	10
Spoiled ballots featuring phallic imagery	1
Fugazi songs selected by candidates as their theme song	2
Words coined during campaigning	3
Percentage likelihood that those words were "relook" (Jon Sharun), "rollertard" (<i>Gateway</i>) and "mushforbrains" (we can't remember who)	100
Times the <i>Gateway</i> was called a "shitrag" during a forum	1
Unicorns liberated by Tom Selleck	6000
Goals that Steve Smith scored on his own net in 1991, losing the Stanley Cup for the Oilers	1

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EDITORIAL

Alberta's objections to Kyoto an embarrassment

From a province notorious for its animosity toward all things progressive, it's not surprising to hear such a staunch objection to environmental reform. I speak specifically about the 1997 Kyoto agreement, which is meant to reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions to five or six per cent below levels recorded in 1990.

Although the cost of reducing greenhouse emissions to meet Kyoto Protocol targets has been found to be only a fraction of the originally estimated \$30-billion price tag, Alberta Environment Minister Lorne Taylor still finds the agreement distasteful. This province has made a big business of breaking down the ozone layer, and Taylor believes that reducing emissions will deal a huge blow to our economy. He proposes that Alberta, whose per capita greenhouse gas emissions are roughly three times the national average, sue Ottawa for the heinous crime of trying to save the environment that gives us our livelihood.

It makes one wonder what the job of an Environment Minister really is.

Over the past five years, unwillingness to change has caused Canada to ask for a change from a five per cent reduction to a three per cent reduction, and voluntary rather than mandatory controls on industry.

Meanwhile, more open-minded countries like Sweden have found

mostly benefits in implementing strict controls on industry. They have developed new, environmentally friendly technologies that have increased efficiency and reduced costs rather than raised them.

Our province's fear of change has held our country back from such benefits. Our perennial inability to think outside the box has turned Alberta into the laughing-stock of the country. While our "Environment" Minister battles the windmills of progress, our reputation deteriorates.

Even certain industry leaders, as evil as their reputations may be, are more willing to work with the Kyoto Protocol than Alberta's government. Suncor Energy's website rightly points out that, "there is a need to take precautionary action now, not because certain climatic change is happening, but because we believe we must not ignore the possibility it may occur."

However, our own province's frenzy to satiate the needs of less reasonable companies has led to the same lack of foresight that got us into this mess in the first place.

Until the people of Alberta are willing to stand up and demand reform from our power-hungry officials, their obstinacy will continue to undermine our province's reputation as well as our country's.

Erika Thorkelson
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR



The race for the Alliance leadership starts heating up

LETTERS

Stay at home as long as you possibly can

I am writing in response to Jagdeep Dhadli's article advising students to "Leave home immediately" (14 March). I know exactly where Jag is coming from, and I think he hit the nail right on the head: most male students want a place of their own in the event they may have an opportunity to have sex. This is understandable. Young men should not be made to feel that their sex drive is wrong. Without it, humankind would never have made it this far.

However, as a parent who was once a very immature young man, I would like to offer some likely-to-be ignored advice: stay at home as long as you can. Living with your parents as a young adult, you have tremendous advantages. Don't be ashamed of them. Use them. Your parents worked very hard to provide them for you.

Instead of living in competition with your parents, dream of the day that your contributions to the household will make things easier for them. The extended family model has been discouraged in this country for some very despicable reasons.

The government doesn't want families working together to make things easier for each other. They want us all out there in separate households paying separate property taxes and inefficiently consuming far more than a centralized family would. Don't fall for it!

Those beer commercials are lying to you!

All that awaits you in your first low-end apartment is a pile of bills. Until you have children of your own, the true benefits of the extended family model are difficult to see in a society where the virtue of independence is so heavily promoted, but I urge you to consider those benefits early.

Right now, that might just mean sitting down with your parents and talking with them honestly about the way you feel. Realize the true consequences of your actions before you head out that door.

The ability to live at home with your parents after graduation while you are earning a professional income is an advantage that few people enjoy in their lives. It could place you years ahead of the game. Don't pass up on it hastily.

BRYAN TRONSGARD
COMPUTING SCIENCE III

Quit picking on Alexander, already

With respect to Gerard McLarney's letter of 14 March, "Jesus good, Alexander bad," I found it rather interesting that such a simple poke at religion spawned such a harsh return.

While I am sympathetic to Mr McLarney's concerns about the message being sent by such jokes,

still there is a line between voicing those concerns and being downright malicious about it. I don't know how Dave Alexander replied to your concerns or the tones he used. Perhaps he gave you good reason to write the letter you did. But, looking to the list itself, I would agree that it was probably not meant in any malice.

Calling Dave Alexander "ignorant and depraved" signals to me that perhaps you have the problem. What does slandering accomplish?

In the end, mud you are throwing is only wiped on your own clothes.

PIERRE LYONS
SCIENCE II

No one wins when you make fun of Jesus

In the 14 March issue of the *Gateway* I think I found the crux of stupidity. I feel that the JJR "comic strip" showed the worst taste.

I do not have any problem with the homoerotic nature of the "slash art" last panel, or the fact that the question that began the strip is never really answered; what I do have a problem with is the trend these days to take the essential icon of a religion and reduce him to toilet humor. This comic had about the same level of humor as a moronic stringing of racial slurs.

The *Gateway* has rules in place to prevent slanderous dialogue from finding its way into the paper, but somehow the comics can get away

with devaluing an entire religion. This *South Park*/pop culture trend of reducing this icon to a laughable status is nothing but filth—Andrew "Dice" Clay filth.

I am not a practicing Christian, but it is my opinion that this sort of portrayal has no place in a university paper, or any paper for that matter. I will conclude with this: Jesus died on cross by our hands—let's not place him back up there for the sake of so-called entertainment.

NEIL COCHRANE
POLITICAL SCIENCE II

Remembrance Day celebrates peace

Just out of curiosity, has Raymond Biesinger ever been to a Remembrance Day ceremony? After reading his article entitled "There's no shortage of reasons for war" in the 12 March issue, I'm quite convinced that Mr Biesinger has completely missed the point of 11 November.

As an airman who has recently returned from a NATO peacekeeping tour, I take great offense to Mr Biesinger's comment stating that Remembrance Day is founded on "imperial arrogance." As you might recall, 11 November is the anniversary of the end of a war, not the beginning of one.

I find it quite insulting that Mr Biesinger can so easily ignore the memory of the brave men and women who gave their lives for this country, as well as those who

continue to represent Canada in a variety of peacekeeping commitments. Even more disgusting is that he does this to selfishly promote his own political agenda.

PAUL R WELKE
408 TACTICAL
HELICOPTER SQUADRON
ARTS IV

Bored Gateway alum sends love

The emancipation of the *Gateway* after ninety years? It's about damn time. Everyone who voted "yes" in the election is going to student newspaper heaven.

I love each and every one of you.

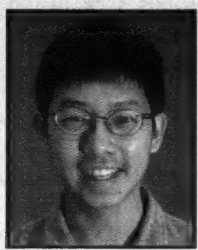
CHRISTIE TUCKER
ARTS ALUMNUS
GATEWAY NEWS EDITOR
1999-2001

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 0-10 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to managing@su.ualberta.ca.

The *Gateway* reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of letters it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words in length and include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.

Grades are too subjective



Julian Cheung

It's almost the end of the year, and finals are just around the corner. Soon, all the work we have done this semester will all be condensed into several digits on our transcripts.

Face it, who doesn't think about grades? Those who don't care win a dean's vacation, while those aiming for 9.0 GPAs tend to get into prestigious programs like medicine and law. I'm sure that we've taken certain subjects to boost grades, because they were prerequisites or GPA boosters.

A university teacher once implied that I was in his class because I needed a grade, not because I wanted to learn (in my defense, I worked hard in that class, and it was a prerequisite that I will never need again).

That was probably true, but I was offended—I wasn't a slacker, and I certainly wasn't the only one who took the class because it was required.

In a perfect world, we would be able to study what we want, for the sake of learning and betterment of the world. I'm sorry, but life doesn't work that way. To get a good job, we need good degrees, and that means meeting degree requirements regardless of whether we like all of our courses or not. In fact, I highly doubt that the teacher mentioned above studied because he truly wanted to "learn." Why did he have to pick on me?

Here's another story. A friend of mine took a language class as a GPA booster, but got an eight instead of a nine because the

instructor thought that he "wasn't there to learn." My friend wasn't a slacker either, and handed in all his work on time, so what the hell is happening here?

It seems unfair to me that a teacher could implicitly punish a hard-working student if he thought the student was only there for a mark. Many undergrads, if not most of them, take classes for grades. To deny this is to be unrealistic.

In that case, why not penalize most undergrads? You can't, because you can't know what each student is thinking when they take a class. However, if you don't, you're being discriminatory because you're doling out selective punishment.

My point is that teachers and TAs at the university level should be there to help us learn, not to judge our motivations and reasons for taking a class. University isn't high school, and we're all adults—we don't need to be forced to go to school anymore.

We're old enough to make our own plans and bear the consequences. Also, everybody has different goals and ways to achieve them. Instructors shouldn't grade according to their judgement of these goals and plans. That's not their job.

People say that undergraduate education is supposed to be a smorgasbord for students to pick and choose from, and that means being exposed to all types of fields, some more enjoyable than others. Once students decide to specialize, they can often take courses that they really enjoy, but that scenario can't possibly happen for every class. One can't possibly expect students to be "learning" from every single class.

Grades aren't always valid measurements of one's understanding and effort in a class. We don't need extra complications from instructors "judging" student's academic plans.

Gay subculture lacks solid foundation



Anthony Easton

I was a good faggot in high school. I made sure that I was part of the community. I worshipped at a gay church, patronized gay businesses, and attended meetings of the gay youth group at the gay community center. I read gay books and believed them when they told me gays were everywhere and every-time, and those gays had a unified history. Most importantly, I came out in high school and took my drubbing, both physical and emotional. As a teenager, I had a funnel for all my angst.

I am a bad faggot now: I have avoided the community for nearly a year. I converted to Catholicism and feel at home there. I buy my goods regardless of the sexuality of the owner. I think the mainstream gay magazines are vain and shallow.

I no longer believe that gays are everywhere, that we existed as a pinned-down identity from the earliest times. I believe that heterodox gays have ignored elements of our history and magnified other elements to a purely symbolic value.

I feel like I have been lied to, that the ambiguity and complexity of ourselves as sexual and cultural beings is being betrayed so that it can be digested with ease as archetypes and stereotypes.

This realization didn't happen all at once. Firstly, there was the media hoopla still surrounding Matthew Shepard.

Although the case happened four years ago and thousands of queer folks have died violently around the world since, none of them has

warranted two movies made by Hollywood stars and an internationally touring theatre production. Although his death was horrific, I suspect this would have been much less of a big deal if he were a person of colour, from the working class or West Hollywood.

The second was during a visit to reclaimtherainbow.com. The people who run this site want God to have exclusive domain on the rainbow symbol.

I realized how tacky and commercial the rainbow had become. It has changed from a symbol of liberation to become something that can be placed on an absurd number of consumer goods. My theory was cemented by seeing a Ford Excursion resplendent with rainbow stickers.

While both Matthew Shepard and rainbow consumerism prompted a sense of class difference, I was reminded of how all the queer discourse I've read seemed to ignore some key factor. It seems that being gay trumped being part of another category. I am a white, well-fed son of the intelligencia.

Being gay, it seems like I can claim the privileges of victimhood while taking only a few minor bumps. It's as if identity is being constructed like a house that has load-bearing walls that cannot be torn down and decorative walls that can. I think it's more complex than that.

There is pressure to deny all the other factors that contribute to my identity and maintain that who I fuck and the culture that surrounds who I fuck as my only identity.

This is problematic for a variety of reasons, as I find desire so nebulous that it collapses into a morass of identity if forced to hold the weight of self. As well, it suggests a homogenized monoculture. When I am asked questions concerning my experiences as a gay man, I find the answers too complex to suggest anything about that can be extrapolated.

The only thing you can tell for sure is that, on occasion, gay men enjoy having sex with other gay men. This is not much to develop a subculture on.

Dave Alexander's TOP TEN

Signs you've hired the wrong birthday clown

- 10 He shows up at your door in giant floppy shoes, a big red nose, and a vintage Nazi storm trooper uniform.
- 9 After forgetting his red wig, he grabs an empty 2-6 from his tiny car, busts it over his head and rubs the blood into his hair.
- 8 He tells a "funny" story about "clown cancer" before blowing up balloons with the tracheotomy hole in his neck.
- 7 He calls his disturbing balloon creations "two-legged wiener dogs," but you're pretty sure they're just wieners.
- 6 All of his knock-knock jokes end with: "My fuckin' greedy ex-wife, that's who!"
- 5 His grand finale consists of him demonstrating how well he can wave at cars that drive by flower shops.
- 4 He complains that he wouldn't have to be there if circuses were more tolerant of bestiality.
- 3 He's moonlighting from his gig with the Cirque Du Soleil.
- 2 His clown pants are extra big and very baggy and smell like clown poo.
- 1 He beats the birthday boy into a coma with a giant slide whistle.

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Re-release of *ET* indicative of everything that is evil



Andrew Fisher

I hate coming up with introductory paragraphs when I'm writing an article.

I mean, it's so easy to spout off some inexcusably lame opener like "In the wake of September 11," or "As I was taking a shit on the *Edmonton Sun*," or "Read this or I'll find a way to ruin you financially," that I often forget that I'm supposed to make people care about what I'm writing.

As you can tell, this article's introduction makes no attempt at rectifying my shortcomings as a writer. Rather, I hoped writing that I was aware of how crappy my intros are would somehow make you think this one was good, much in the same way that *Swordfish* tried to trick everyone into thinking it wasn't going to be a steaming pile of baby feces by having John Travolta talk about how bad *Dog Day Afternoon* was.

Hey, and now that that nightmare is over and we're on the subject of Hollywood, I'd like to turn our attention to something that has really been bothering me lately: the re-release of *ET*.

Now don't get me wrong; *ET* is great. Best movie ever. I love it more than I could ever love my

entire family without some kind of love-enhancing drug like, uh, barbiturates.

Well, maybe not that much, but it was still a pretty swell movie. It combined all the elements of any timeless children's classic: aliens, botany, Drew Barrymore, shameless plugs for Texas Instruments and Reese's Pieces, and, at one point, Elliot even calls his older brother "dink breath." Clearly, these are all essential aspects of great filmmaking.

The only reason I can see for Spielberg hauling the stinking carcass of such a dated and boring film out of 1982 and back into children's hearts everywhere this summer is for money. But come on. What the hell does Spielberg need more money for, anyhow? Jewel-encrusted hubcaps? A solid gold china hutch? Man, that's just greedy.

And seeing as the object is to obtain as much money as possible without actually having to make a movie, they've added a few extra scenes, presumably as incentive for the legions of die-hard *ET* fans who have spent the last twenty years longing to see their favourite space-freak rendered in embarrassingly crappy computer animation sequences.

Maybe I'm just getting old, but back in my day, we didn't need fancy reconstructions of deleted scenes to make us enjoy a movie. Hell, we would've been happy if they had just redone the scenes with *ET* represented by a half-pound glazed ham stuck on the end of a wooden ruler. Or, better yet, we have been happy to see them

not fuck around with a good thing in the first place.

The major source of sadness in the chat-rooms seems to be that Spielberg has gone back into the film and digitally removed the gun from the hands of the evil, evil guys in suits. In the new version they'll be holding walkie-talkies instead, because apparently impressionable kids who watch the film will think that if they, too, fly around on their bikes with a fetus-alien, they could get a government-sponsored cap in their asses. Oh wait—that's why they call it fantasy.

Hell, we would've been happy if they had just redone the scenes with *ET* represented by a half-pound glazed ham stuck on the end of a wooden ruler.

For a guy who has always claimed to be a child at heart, Spielberg is totally clueless. Let kids loose in the middle of the woods and the first thing they'll do is find gun-shaped sticks to fire imaginary nature bullets at each other, throw dirt clump grenades, build forts or smash Piggy's glasses.

Before TV and film existed, kids would play War or Cowboys and Indians. Before that they would've used sticks to have sword fights, and before that they'd have smashed each other over the head with woolly mammoth ribs while trying to push each other into the tar pits. It was all in good fun.

Kids don't need to see weapons to make them play violent games; all they need are calories, imagi-

nation and boredom. People enjoy drama, and drama manifests itself in the collision of opposing forces, hence the popularity of sports.

What kid is going to like *ET* better after it's been run through the boringifier? "Oh oh, ride away Elliot, ride! Get away from those nasty goons before they use their radios to snicker to each other about how lame your K-Mart bike is!"

It's not only crap like this that makes movies more boring, but also the need to cram re-releases and DVDs with extraneous junk. Did the *Star Wars* re-release benefit from Han Solo talking to a badly digitized and surprisingly tiny Jabba the Hutt, or from the pathetic addition of a shockwave to the still stupidly anti-climactic Death Star explosion?

Similarly, nine out of ten DVDs with deleted or extended scenes are little more than reminders of why the job of editor exists. The footage was removed because it was extraneous and unnecessary, meaning no one benefits from an extended long shot of Mos Eisley. Except for that chinless plaid shirt-wearing hack Lucas, who can now afford to fill his waterbed with Siberian tiger sperm and Fabergé eggs.

And you'd think that Spielberg would have learned from the mistakes of his jizz-loving colleague, though this is obviously not the case. I just hope that Spielberg will die before the twentieth anniversary re-release of *Schindler's List* hits the big screen during Christmas 2013, allowing the whole family to witness humanity's greatest atrocity all over again for the first time. While strung out on barbiturates.

THE BURLAP SACK

This vicious sack beating goes out to the Federal government for continuing the habit of hiding tax increases behind whatever contemporary issue they can conveniently justify it with.

This time, it's an airport tax that will be hidden in your ticket prices to support the expenditure of 2.2 billion dollars over the next five years to increase "security."

Not only is this a knee-jerk over-reaction to the relatively non-existent terrorist threat to Canadian airports, the government's suggestion that the "user fee" might go down after building the initial infrastructure sounds hollow given the history of the Canadian government (such as the allegedly temporary "Income tax" to help pay for the pesky threat of WWI).

This is just one in a long line of stupid taxes that we don't really need, but allows the government to misdirect money. Remember the recordable media tax that was supposed to go to helping independent artists, but was then redirected to major corporations? No? You should, because even if you are just backing up your files, the government's tax is making you pay for stealing songs.

I'd prefer it if people made a stink and tried to stop this ridiculousness, but if nothing else, a beating will have to do.

JAMES ELFORD

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. Lamentably, no one gets hurt.

Decision of the Discipline Interpretation and Enforcement Board



Ireland v. Chief Returning Officer

Date: 11 March 2002

Members present: Vincent Tong, Sean Doherty, R. Aaron Low, Dean Dowle, Ryan Cheng, Katharine Nicholson.

Appellants: Scott Ireland.

Respondent: Alex Ragan, Chief Returning Officer (CRO).

Facts: The Appellant, an interested party who also happens to be a Deputy Returning Officer for his faculty's elections, filed a complaint with the CRO stating that the method of balloting was not secret, thus violating the requirement of Bylaw 2100 requiring confidentiality of results. The Appellant stated that there is the possibility that voters could be identified with their specific ballots.

The following is common ground: voters' student ID numbers are given to the poll clerks; the poll clerks then record the student ID number along with the ballot number on the 'bubble sheet'; the ballot is given to the voter; the 'bubble sheet' is deposited in one box; the ballot is deposited in another box; the University of Alberta Computer and Networking Services then checks all of the 'bubble sheets' for double balloting; the ballots are given to an independent accounting firm; the CRO's office informs the accounting firm of any ballot numbers to eliminate. This procedure is used to ensure that voters cannot vote twice. All ballots and 'bubble sheets' are destroyed two weeks after the election.

The CRO dismissed the Appellant's complaint. The Appellant appeals to the DIE Board and seeks that the CRO be fined or dismissed and that the election results be overturned.

Authorities cited: Students' Union Bylaw 2100.

Issues: Is the balloting procedure an acceptable procedure? Should the CRO be fined or dismissed if the balloting procedure is found to be unacceptable?

Decision: Yes, the balloting procedure is an acceptable one. Consequently, there is no need to address the second question.

The DIE Board is impressed with the third party involvement in the election process, as evidenced by the input of the independent accounting firm. There are sufficient

The DIE Board is impressed with the third party involvement in the election process, as evidenced by the input of the independent accounting firm. There are sufficient safeguards in the balloting procedure to eliminate most privacy issues that may arise. While it is theoretically possible to correlate between a specific ballot and a voter, doing so would require access to the ballots and 'bubble sheets' held by the accounting firm and the CRO's office respectively. The accounting firm and the CRO are trusted to maintain high standards of confidentiality. Furthermore, making another link between the student ID number and the voter's name would require yet more information, correlating a specific student ID number to a specific voter; doing so would require obtaining this information from the University of Alberta Registrar. As the University is subject to Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, this information is again unavailable to the general public.

The DIE Board accepts the CRO's argument that the overarching concern with using this procedure is to eliminate any multiple ballots. As such, the balloting procedure is as secure as can be, given this primary concern and logistical ones. Alternative balloting procedures may be considered, but it is not the place of the DIE Board to make recommendations regarding this matter.

No evidence was adduced that any individual had been able to subvert the balloting procedure and obtain all the information required to link the ballot numbers with the student ID numbers. Furthermore, no evidence was adduced as to any wrongdoing on the part of the CRO.

The DIE Board wishes to lay down rules for future elections that use this balloting procedure. First, the exact balloting procedure, outlining each step of the process from the time a ballot is assigned to a voter to the method that the ballots are counted and how duplicate ballots are eliminated, will be published in The Gateway beside any election notices in every issue for two weeks preceding each election. Secondly, the balloting procedure will be posted at each polling station, in a clearly visible manner, on the polling days. Finally, each poll clerk must be fully briefed on the balloting procedure to answer any questions that may arise from voters. They will also explain briefly to each voter the reasoning behind the balloting procedure. These requirements are not an insignificant undertaking for future CROs and election staff; however, the DIE Board feels that these requirements will allay any fears voters may have about their privacy.

The appeal thus fails. The second question does not need to be addressed.

Bears roar to national gold

Alberta steps up large-style in trio of wins to capture title

Bryan Lee
SPORTS STAFF

Despite overlapping the NCAA Tournament, Canadian university basketball still had its moment in the sun.

And for the Golden Bears basketball team, it couldn't have been scripted any better.

The CIS Final Eight was truly what it was hyped to be—the best against the best. The top-ranked Western Mustangs took on the number-two Bears in front of 6700 fans in Halifax. The match-up also featured the top two scorers in the tournament: Bears guard Stephen Parker and Mustangs forward Andy Kwaitkowski. Both put on a show in Sunday's final.

"We put [everything] behind us. We couldn't dwell on our [performance at Canada West tournament]. There was a bigger goal at stake, and we took everything we had out on the court."

— Stephen Parker,
Tournament MVP

Kwaitkowski, the 2002 national MVP, helped spark the Mustangs to an early 9-2 separation and ended up leading the game with 23 points. On the other side, Parker scored the Bears' first eight points. With a tournament MVP effort from Parker and a strong performance from Mike Melnychuk off the bench, the Bears made sure they didn't fall too far behind. They led 38-37 at the half.

Rocky starts had been a problem for the Bears all weekend, having been down at halftime against both St Mary's and York in their prior games. The Bears clawed their way back in both games though, and won 68-58 and 66-59 respectively.

"We knew we had to play like

we've been playing in the second half of this weekend's games to win today," Parker emphasized. "We got it together—we weren't down at the half and we weren't down at the end."

If anything was apparent, it was that the Bears saved their best for last and, in a manner of speaking, their last for best, as it was their fifth-year veterans who stepped up for them.

Parker had an amazing game, capped off by a key intercepted pass with less than a minute left. It was after his big slam that the Bears knew they had won their third national championship and first since 1994-95.

"Stephen was electric all week," CIS coach of the year Don Horwood exclaimed. "He was phenomenal. Nobody wanted it more than him."

"It's a dream come true," added Parker. "I've been working hard for five years. I've been out to Halifax four times now with the Bears and finished off a champion."

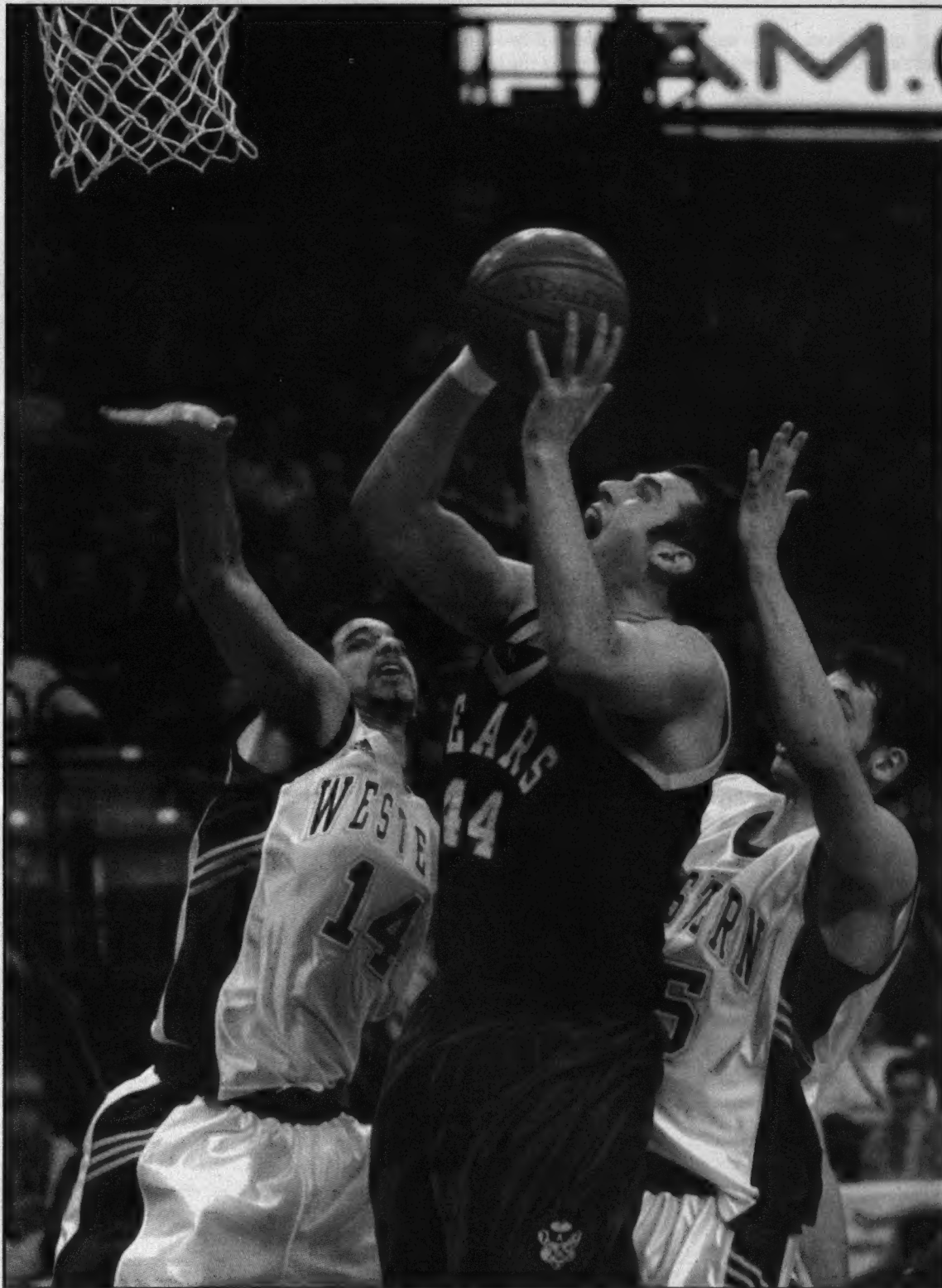
Fifth-year captain Reuben Hall also had a strong game. He finished the tournament with 32 points, and his potent physical presence forced Western into a lot of foul trouble that gave the Bears a big advantage. The Bears had 28 shots from the foul line to Western's twelve in the Bears' see-saw 76-71 victory.

"It's a tough loss," Mustangs coach Craig Boydell admitted. "I know we played an outstanding team and I thought we played well too. We can't defend them at the foul line, though."

For the Bears, this is their third national title, and for the U of A overall, it's the fifth national title this season.

"What a great game for the basketball fans in Canada. I thought Western played their hearts out," Horwood remarked.

"I'm so proud of our guys. We slowly got better each game here, and I thought we played our best game all year for the national championship."



Nick Pearce / The Dalhousie Gazette

Robbie Valpreda came alive in the second half of Sunday's 76-71 gold medal win over the Western Mustangs.

Tennis Bears overtake Toronto Blues for NAIA title

Brendan Procé
SPORTS STAFF

The U of T tennis crew is singing the blues, as the Golden Bears defeated the Toronto Varsity Blues 5-2 in the National Collegiate Championship, 16 March at the U of A tennis centre.

Alberta took five of seven available points to win the national title. One point was up for grabs in doubles play, and six in singles. The Bears took the doubles point and seized four of six marks in singles.

Though tennis is not an official CIS sanctioned sport, the Bears compete in the NAIA and have won five of the last seven titles.

On Saturday, the doubles point was decided by playing three

matches, and Alberta won them all. Pierre Gasparotto and Jacob Komar defeated Jordan Bohnen and Mark Renneson 6-4, 6-4, while Andrew Pehlau and John Kerr tackled Chris Lychak and Armin Milani 6-4, 6-2. Sheldon Au and Hyacinthe Fallu punched a 6-2, 6-4 double-shot against Andrew Anderson and Bryan Wells for a doubles sweep: point Alberta.

Conversely, singles players were awarded one point per victory, compared to the lone point awarded in doubles play.

Bear Jacob Komar defeated Mark Renneson 6-4, 4-6, 6-3, while Andrew Peglau slapped Armin Milani with a 6-1, 6-2 loss. John Kerr started slowly against Andrew Anderson with a 5-7 setback before winning the point for the Green

and Gold with consecutive 6-4, 6-2 blows. Sheldon Au scored the fourth singles point, and the fifth and final for Alberta, sending Chris Lychak to the showers 7-5 and 6-3 after a slow 6-7 start.

The U of T came away with two of the possible seven chips, with Jordan Bohnen defeating Pierre Gasparotto 6-4, 6-2 and Bryan Wells taking Maciek Pukowicz 6-3, 6-2.

Clawmarks:

The national title will look good on the mantle with the western title that the Bears won in November, where they handily defeated UVic 8-1, UBC 5-4, and the U of C 7-2.

At the western finals, Sheldon Au and Hyacinthe Fallu were named to the first all-star team as dou-



File photo: Marcus Bence / THE GATEWAY

The Bears held up their end of Alberta's winning tradition last weekend.

bles teamers, while Jacob Komar, were named to the first singles Andrew Peglau and Sheldon Au team.

Daum quietly confident in this year's team



Collin Gallant
SPORTS EDITOR

A great man once said that there's more than one way to skin a cat.

And as Bears head coach Rob Daum prepares his team for the big dance at the University Cup next weekend, the Bears are trying to put some old ghosts to rest.

But not of losing as the sure-shot favourite in 2001, rather as a distinct squad selling its own subtle distillation of Golden Bears brand hockey at the national level.

This season the Bears posted 21 wins, three losses, and four ties—which, incredibly, and in fact wrongly, seems like a so-so record for the program that has qualified for the last six national tournaments.

The Bears scorched the Western playoff grid, crushing the third-ranked Saskatchewan Huskies two weekends ago to win the Canada West title. They outscored opponents 134 to 58 over 28 games.

Still, this team can't be called odds-on-favourite, nor are they the heads and shoulders best team in the country—as they were lauded for something like 30-straight weeks last season.

But, this is a team that really

can't, nor should they have to, make-up for the footnoted season of 2001—when the Bears (a 40-game winner) badly dropped two games at the 2001 University Cup.

"You can't call this redemption," said Daum, of his team's upcoming round-robin game against the Western Mustangs and the tournament in general.

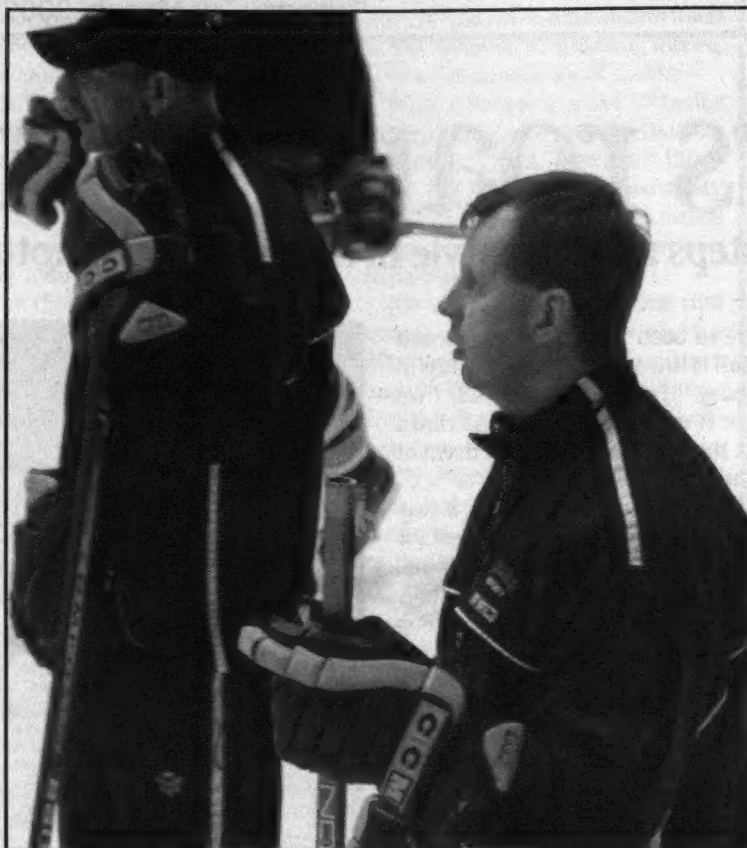
At last year's tournament the Mustangs downed the Bears 5-3, the first of two Alberta losses that surprised the hell out of just about everyone.

"We're not looking for redemption," said Daum. His mood before his team's last home practice wasn't nervous, but certainly without the swagger of previous years. Perhaps he's painted into a corner by a .761 career winning percentage.

"The motivator for us is to win a national championship. Last year, for a number of reasons we didn't succeed, but there are large differences between that team and this year's team."

With the off-season departure of two-time national MVP, three-time national scoring champion Russ Hewson, along with all-Canadian blueliners Mike Garrow and captain Ryan Marsh, the Bears had a void to fill. In total, seven Bears spots opened up over the summer.

"Last year, when things weren't going well, we looked to only one or two players [to pull it out for us]," said Daum. "And you couldn't help it, because Russ was such a good player, such a great leader—he was so dominant that it was only natural."



Philip Head / THE GATEWAY

Head coach Rob Daum (foreground) oversees the Bears' Monday practice.

Truly, it's tough, and probably pretty stupid, not to centre a team around a player as dominant as a Russ Hewson, but it comes with a critical weakness. In 2001, when five or six players did double duty (powerplay and penalty-killing) in a poorly-officiated weekend, it proved too much to overcome.

"Last year's team was unbelievable, regardless of a bad weekend that ended up costing us," said Daum. "[This year] it's a different

make-up—and I like our team—we've got some guys that we could say to 'it's all up to you' but we won't do that, when we're in trouble you look to the whole team."

A third of the roster was filled by solid university-level rookies. While second- and third-year players like Steve Shrum and Wade Burt have bloomed, the vets have shown needed leadership.

It's not just a different team, it's a different equation.



Sports in Brief

Pandas volleyball

It was announced Monday that the six-time national champion Pandas volleyball team will be inducted into the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame.

One of the most dominant teams ever in any sport, the Pandas earned consecutive titles from 1995-2000, earning two CIS coach of the year awards for head coach Laurie Eisler, and garnering a host of individual awards for the 39 different Pandas who competed on the teams.

The team joins some lofty company. Also inducted in the team categories were the five-time Stanley Cup champion Oilers, the five-time Grey Cup champion Eskimos, and the Edmonton Grads, an amateur female basketball team which amassed a 502-20 record from 1915-1940.

Bears hockey

The Bears hockey squad heads to Kitchener to compete at the University Cup tournament. They open the tournament Thursday at 11:00am against the host Guelph Gryphons. That game will be broadcast on CJSR FM88. Look for more hockey news in Thursday's Gateway.

Bears basketball

In case you missed it, the Bears won the national championship last weekend in Halifax.



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article **david ZEIBIN**

illustrations **raymond BIESINGER**

I'm no mathematician. In fact, my math knowledge, although expansive in the areas of simple integrals and differential equations, is quite lacking as far as number theory and set theory goes. If I fudged something, be forgiving. My intent is not to establish myself as a force in the world of mathematics, or demonstrate my infinitely superior intellect to the mortals. I want to spark an interest somewhere, provide a basis for understanding, and perhaps coerce some unassuming soul into thinking about things in a slightly different manner. Infinity has treated me well; it has kept me high on my toes and alert to the subtle possibilities not only in the hectic realm of engineering physics but also the mysterious workings of our minds and bodies.

The concept of infinity is something we all become familiar with at a relatively early age. Once we've strayed from the typical memorization of the natural numbers (1,2,3,4,5,...), we begin to understand how numbers are formed, and that by adding 1 to a number, we get the next number and so on. Eventually, we reach a really really really big number. And then you tell someone that you hate them "times infinity." They deftly retort with "hate times infinity plus one." We think we're pretty smart.

Infinity is a long way off, and to actually sit down and count to infinity, well, you'd have to live forever. Fortunately, we're smart and we can nimbly wrap our mind around the concept of infinity. Infinity is not a thing or a value or a number. We use infinity to visualize certain physical situations, and unfortunately, that's where the problems only begin.

The concept of infinity was encountered by the Greeks long ago. In two situations, finding the area bounded by curved lines and understanding the motion of heavenly bodies, there lay a caveat, easy to miss but philosophically undeniable and unignorable.

Infinity rears its hideous head often in the physical world: the notion of elementary particles, the continuity of time, or the continuity of space. At first, we don't notice anything—matter simply exists, time passes, we move from place to place with ne'er a second thought. But we can always leave it up to

the philosophers to make life difficult. What happens if we chop a carrot in half, then again in half, then again, then again, etc? How far can we go? Does it make sense to think that we could?

How about time? What's an "instant in time"? How small is an instant? How small could an instant get? And motion? Is it continuous? If one moves from position A to position B, how many positions are there in between?

The questions never seem to end, and the answers are nearly always unsatisfying. Mathematical theorems are designated unprovable or undecidable, while the philosophers reinforce the situation with forgivable vagueness and extensive pondering.

THE ACHILLES PARADOX and THE PARADOX OF THE "STADE" Zeno, a philosopher in 450BC, offered two now-famous paradoxes, each declaring that motion was impossible even if space were continuous or granular. The first, the Achilles paradox, involves a tortoise and a hare, and assumes space is infinitely divisible.

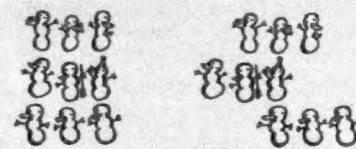
Presuming that the hare is twice as fast as the tortoise, the tortoise is given a head start. But by the time the hare reaches the point where the tortoise began, the tortoise has moved ahead. Again, the hare reaches that point, and again, the tortoise has moved ahead yet again. Continuing, the hare will never quite meet up with the tortoise, let alone overtake him.

Zeno did not believe that this would be the case. Experience shows nothing except the fact that the hare will *always* overtake the tortoise. Zeno's point, however, challenged the notion that an infinite series can be made as large as we like, ignoring the concept of convergence (if one adds 1 to 0.1 to 0.01 to 0.001 to 0.0001, *ad infinitum*, the sum converges to 0.111111..., not infinity).

The paradox of the Stade (stadium) describes soldiers parading around a stadium, moving in and

out of formation. Our example features snowmen without any loss in consistency.

We assume that, moving from togetherness, the second row of snowmen moves gracefully to the right until the snowmen line up again. This happens in one unit of time, or *T*. During the same time, the third row waltzes to the left, also until they line up again. But now the second and third rows are out of order by two snowmen:



This means that there must be a smaller time unit than *T*, and that, if we wanted, we could re-perform the "dance of the snowmen" using the new *T*, thus finding another smaller *T*. The gist is, time is infinitely divisible.

Or so Zeno thought. Whether this paradox answers our questions is, well, questionable. Typically, we assume space and time to be continuous, therefore infinitely divisible.

SOME RANDOM THOUGHTS, INSPIRATIONAL OR OTHERWISE The repercussions of these scenarios aren't very relevant to daily life, and in fact, we could likely disregard them completely. Regardless, the situations are intriguing. They open up regions of thought about the physical world that, although mostly physically unrealizable, give direction and guidance to even the simplest theories, and definitely to the most complex.

Superstrings, a current fad in elementary particle theory and the general "theory of everything," offer one-dimensional "strings" that can be open or closed in a loop. Although requiring a ten-dimensional space to explain physical reality, my problem lies in the "elementary" claim. If these things are so elementary, why does it seem logically reasonable that we could

cut them in half, in the same way we could cut a string in half? Perhaps, I'm missing something, or perhaps it doesn't matter, but I still find it unsettling.

If I'm not made up of "something," what am I made of? A friend once gave me a strange feeling as he accused me of being nothing but electrons, protons, and neutrons, all vibrating and whizzing around at the speed of light. I felt detached, almost out-of-body.

The mind is a creepy space (or head space, if you will). Over time, we've developed notions of time, space, and experience, all the while wrapping our teeny brains around this eternal anomaly, faced with the simple mortality of our existence. Again, I am unsettled by the fact that I'll never experience infinity, and that, if something out there is eternal, it comprehends the infinite completely but likely has no handle on the finite. What of this overactive mind of mine now?

I often think about the "nothing" that the universe expands into, and then perform a little limit in my head:

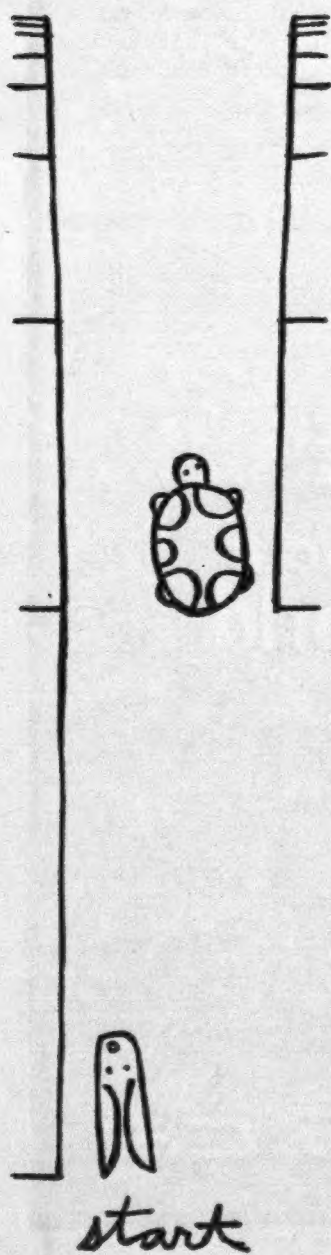
$$\lim_{\text{universe} \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\text{finite energy of universe}}{\text{universe}} = 0$$

I think this is a bit different than the heat death scenario wherein all the entropy of the universe disappears. As my friend mentioned, "I won't be around"; it makes it hard to care. But caring about something so far off isn't the point. The point is what it would be like if you could be there. If it's all energy, moving around, here to there, what happens when the finite amount of energy in the universe is spread so thin over the infinite?

Yet, my imagination forges ahead. I still walk and talk normally, and I try not to let these narcissistic thoughts eat my leisure time. I feel better though, to sit and ponder with a cool glass of lemonade and a cool summer sunset, to wonder how things would be different if I had forever.

"The study of the infinite is much more than a dry, academic game. The intellectual pursuit of the Absolute Infinite is a form of the soul's quest for God. Whether or not the goal is ever reached, and awareness of the process brings enlightenment." - Rudy Rucker, *Infinity and the Mind*

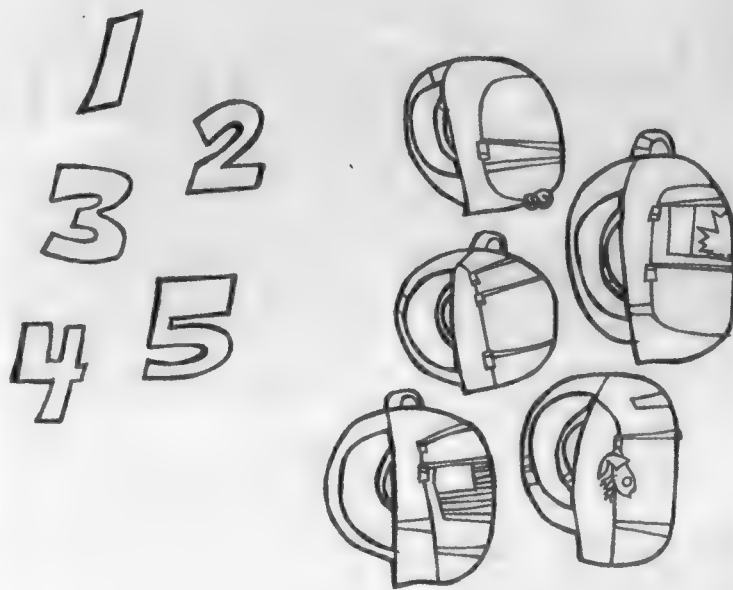
* for the calculus deprived among you, all this essentially means, at a very basic level, is that we have a finite number divided by infinity, which equals zero. the idea is that, as the universe expands, the total energy of the universe remains constant. speaking energy density (energy per unit space), it's zero. zero energy means absolutely nothing happens. that's bizarre. i'd say, anyway.



THE QUICKEST, DIRTIEST "PROOF" THAT THERE IS MORE THAN ONE INFINITY OUT THERE

or,

Why the
"I hate you infinity+1"
argument can
go on forever...



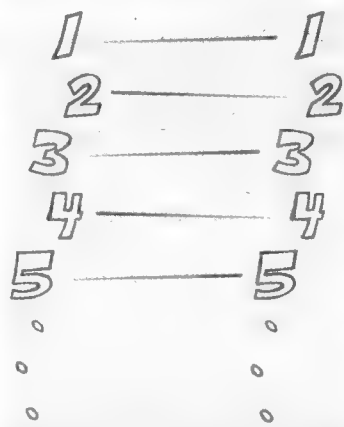
Alright, no beating around the bush.

ONE-TO-ONE CORRESPONDENCE: This is the idea that we can count things. We all do it. "I just ate three coconuts!" "I just ate ten prunes!"

Check this out. Backpacks. If we want, we can count backpacks. Look. For every backpack, there's a number. Those numbers are what we call the NATURAL NUMBERS. And the collection of them is called a SET, the set of natural numbers. Stay with me. We can put the backpacks into one-to-one correspondence with the set of natural numbers, or in other words, the number of backpacks can be enumerated (we can count them).

The clever thing is that, using one-to-one correspondence, we can see why one group of things is bigger than another. For example, I ate more prunes than coconuts because we can do the "one-to-one" thing, and then I've got seven prunes with no pairs.

That's rad. Now what? Put the natural numbers into one-to-one correspondence with themselves:



Well, we can keep going and going and going and going, until we reach what we think of as infinity. Things are gonna get real weird, real quick. Hang on. So what does this mean? **Answer:** there is an infinite number of natural numbers. **You're thinking:** thanks for pointing out the obvious, stupid.

Here's the dumb thing: there's also an infinite number of even numbers, of odd numbers, of fractions, and of times you could pick a scab if you could live for eternity. Oddly, since all these groups of things are enumerable and can be put into one-to-one correspondence with the natural numbers, each of those infinities is exactly the same size. Lies, you say. But that's why $\infty + 1$ is still infinity, or why $\infty \div 2$ is infinity too.

Don't believe me? Think. Don't hurt yourself. Then do this: add all the even numbers to the odd

numbers to get the set of all integers. Then count 'em. Guess what? $\infty \times 2$ is still infinity (think one-to-one correspondence).

Infinity is big. Math freaks call this one \aleph_0 (aleph naught). Aleph is the first character in the Hebrew alphabet. But it's the smallest of the infinities. Don't give me that look. We call this number, \aleph_0 , the CARDINALITY of a set and \aleph_0 , a CARDINAL NUMBER.

Along comes Georg Cantor. The little shit-disturber made a big matrix to count the number of real fractions between zero and one. He found the cardinality to be \aleph_0 . We've already done that. It's boring. Then he made a matrix of lots of decimal numbers, like so:

```

1 0 . 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
2 0 . 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 ...
3 0 . 3 7 9 9 9 9 9 9 ...
4 0 . 8 5 7 3 4 8 2 3 4 ...
5 0 . 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 ...
...
k 0 . k k k k k k k k k ...

```

Needless to say, the list was pretty big. A big list of all the decimals between zero and one all in one-to-one correspondence with the natural numbers. Then the fool decided to create a new number, one that differed from every other one. Call it z . Let $z = z_1 z_2 z_3 z_4 z_5 z_6 \dots$. Using our little list, we say $z_1 \neq 1$, $z_2 \neq 2$, $z_3 \neq 9$, and so on. Get my drift? Every digit in z is different from the corresponding decimal in the list (for the fourth item, the fourth decimal digit, z_4 , is not 3). Think about a diagonal line; z differs from each digit on the line. Huzzah!

But that means z isn't in the list. This is a problem. We've got no pair for z in the natural numbers. Bad news, dudes. If we were to add z to our list, we could take another diagonal and that one won't be in our list either (it'll be different from at least one digit in z , the one on the diagonal). Then we could add that one too, then take another diagonal, add that one, take another diagonal, add it, diagonal, add it, *ad infinitum*. The catch is that no matter how many times we do it, we'll always have a decimal number that's different. Always. Now thinking about one-

to-one correspondence, we always have one leftover item meaning ... wait for it ... it's possible for one infinity to be larger than \aleph_0 .

Cantor was thought to be foolish but the proof pretty much said it all. That famous computing guy Alan Turing (reference the Enigma in WWII) did something really similar to prove that there are uncomputable numbers. Cantor's deal essentially proves the existence of irrational numbers, like π or e . He called this "bigger" infinity c , or the CONTINUUM. So, what do we have then? The number of points on any line, or in any plane, or in any 3D space is c . Now that we've got all those other weird decimals in there, c is bigger than \aleph_0 . That's some paradox. To think that there's the same number of points in a 2D plane as in 1D line is absurd. But I'm sorry. I can't help it. It's just the way it is. Don't feel too confused though. This is big business. It's a bit touchy to get your head around it.

Moving up the hierarchy, there is one infinity—still having a physical analogy—that is "bigger." But I'm not going to try to explain it. It requires a bit more set theory, and frankly, I hate set theory. All I'll tell you is that the math kids call it d and that all possible sets of points in the plane as well as all possible sets of points in the 3D space both have cardinality d , d being "bigger" than c of course.

The coolest thing about all this: Cantor, still being a smart-ass, proved that if you take all the possible subsets of a set of A items, the number of all those subsets is 2^A and that $A < 2^A$. So, um, watch: $\aleph_0 < 2^{\aleph_0}$. Cantor said $2^{\aleph_0} = \aleph_1$. Then $2^{\aleph_1} = \aleph_2$, and so on such that $\aleph_0 < \aleph_1 < \aleph_2 < \aleph_3 < \dots$. Cantor figured that $\aleph_1 = c$ and $\aleph_2 = d$ but couldn't prove it. This idea, called the CONTINUUM HYPOTHESIS, was proved to be consistent with set theory by Kurt Gödel. Paul Cohen then showed the world that if the continuum hypothesis were taken as false, a new system could be created (non-Cantorian set theory) and that the system would still be consistent.

The continuum hypothesis is now considered undecidable, that is, it can't be proved true but it can't be proved untrue either. Frankly, we're stuck. But it's neat to think about anyway.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

THE GSA'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD MONDAY MARCH 25, 2002 IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ROOM 2-1 UNIVERSITY HALL AT 5:00PM.

(Please note the time change — the meeting has been moved an hour earlier to 5:00pm in order to accommodate students wishing to attend the Visiting Lectureship in Human Rights later in the evening.)

The Annual General Meeting allows all graduate students to voice their opinions on and vote to approve a number of issues of importance to them. Included in this year's agenda items are:

- Approval of the GSA's 2002-2003 Budget
- Proposed amendments to the GSA's Constitution
- Election of at-large Graduate student representatives to the General Faculties Council
- Reports from the GSA Executive outlining their activities this year
- Report from the Graduate Student Ombudsperson

This is the key opportunity for graduate students to hear and interact with their GSA representatives and we strongly encourage all students to come out and participate!

A light supper will be provided for all who attend, and there will be a celebration afterwards in Dewey's. For more information please call the GSA office at 492-2175 or drop in to see us; we are located at 206N Power Plant.

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- Internationalize your University of Alberta experience
- Learn intercultural communication and leadership skills



University of Alberta
INTERNATIONAL

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION SESSION
Wednesday, March 27, 5:00 pm

International Centre, 172 HUB International, 9101 Sidewalk Level
www.international.ualberta.ca Email: angela.anderson@ualberta.ca



Philip Head / THE GATEWAY

Dancers throw themselves into Allen Kaeja's kintec choreography.

The great power of Resistance

Kaeja d'Dance harnesses explosive energy for exploration of the terror of the Holocaust

DANCE REVIEW

Resistance

Kaeja d'Dance

John L. Haar Theatre
14 & 15 March, 2002

Erika Thorkelson
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Allen Kaeja isn't afraid to make a powerful impression. The Toronto choreographer's inexhaustive kinetic style flies in the face of the way most people think of modern dance.

While many choreographers question conventions of other forms of dance through ambiguity, the Toronto native's choreography defies gender roles and invites audiences in, rather than alienating them.

Surprisingly, his work, *Resistance*, at times resembled the powerful movement of a martial art more than the nymph-like prancing most attach to modern dance.

Inspired by his father's experiences in the Holocaust, Kaeja created *Resistance* to be as emotionally involving as any theatre piece, despite its lack of a narrative structure.

Unexpectedly, the performance began with a short piece performed by dancers from Victoria School for the Visual and Performing Arts. The work, inspired by Pythagoras' Theory governing triangles, featured eight highschool-aged dancers. Backed by a powerful score of industrial-style samples and wilderness sounds, by long-time Kaeja-collaborator, Edgardo Moreno, the girls used their bodies to give personality to the normally inarticulate shape. Though the young dancers weren't quite as polished as their elders, their energy brought strength to Kaeja's choreography, wiping away any images of a haphazard highschool dance show.

The main performance began with a sound like the drone of fighter planes or perhaps the rumble of a boxcar on its way to Auschwitz.

The noise slowly subsided as one by one the characters, who had no name or stable identity, awoke and moved slowly into a communal dance with their fellow prisoners.

The stage was simple—only a black stage with wooden benches that left the six dancers to act as the set. Their period costumes at first seemed as though they would restrict to the normally fluid style of modern dance, but as the dancers moved into solos and duets, their garb became an integral part of the dance itself.

Kaeja's choreography seemed to give even the smallest dancers unimaginable versatility. One performer, who appeared to be barely five feet tall, shifted easily between the role of innocent victim and aggressor.

One moment she hung on the back of a larger woman in a pantomime of a lost child, the next she nimbly lifted the largest member of the cast, a man almost twice her size, and tossed him across the floor.

The movements themselves employed a mix of breathtaking accuracy and stunning imagery that explored the pain of resisting oppression. Dancers tossed benches back and forth, missing each other only narrowly, illustrating succinctly the danger of descent, without saying a word.

While modern dance is often seen as inaccessible and obtuse, *Resistance* held the audience rapt for more than an hour and brought many to their feet at the end of the performance. Without a narrative it managed to convey a touching story, and without words it managed to make a statement about the strength of humanity that resonated long after the applause ended.

More than meets the eye

Pat Lee's *Transformers: G1* continues the return of '80s pop culture

COMIC PREVIEW

Transformers: Generation 1

by Pat Lee

Dreamwave Productions

Tyson Durst

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

They used to be more than meets the eye and now they're back. Dreamwave Productions, a Toronto-based company, has acquired the rights to do a comic book based on the classic *Transformers*.

Dreamwave is known for producing cutting-edge comics with a strong influence from Japanese anime and manga. With titles like *Darkminds*, *Neon Cyber*, *Warlands*, *Banished Knights*, *Shidima*, and *Echo*, adding *Transformers: Generation 1* to the fold is a logical fit.

It wasn't that long ago that a *Transformers* piece from Dreamwave was imagined as a "dream project" in *Wizard: The Comics Magazine* to give fans a taste of what might be. According to Dreamwave, Hasbro noticed as well: "It played an important part in Dreamwave going forward with purchasing the license," Lee points out. "It also helped give Hasbro a first glance of what the comic book might look like if DW were to do it."

Marvel Comics previously held the license to the hugely popular Hasbro toy property but let it expire some time ago.

Fast-forward to 2002, where advances in computer technology, combined with raw talent, will guarantee a new vitality in the *Transformers* franchise on the comic book page.

As if that wasn't enough, add to that the resurgence of nostalgia in '80s properties (Devil's Due Publishing, under the banner of Image Comics, is currently publishing a *GI Joe* comic) and you have one of the most anticipated

projects of the year.

At the centre of the *Transformers* juggernaut is a strong Canadian connection: Pat Lee. The main artist for the series and president/art director of Dreamwave Productions, Lee remains calm and focused amidst the hype, "[I'm] not worried at all, I have a lot of confidence in my team and I believe that *TF* fans will enjoy the series since we know *TF* quite well."

Born in Montreal and raised in Toronto, the 26-year-old has enjoyed tremendous success with only seven years in the comic book industry. In 1998 Lee's career really took off with the formation of his own company, Dreamwave, and the release of its first title, *Darkminds*. Since then, Lee has had some measure of creative input in every title that his company has put out.

"It's great to see all the '80s titles come out into the comic book industry because the public has definitely been waiting for it"

— Pat Lee

Of course, this brings us to the upcoming release of *Transformers: G1*. The first issue is set to ship to comic book stores in April, followed by five more issues until September. If that isn't enough to satisfy your *Transformers* fix, Dreamwave will also be doing an ongoing series entitled *Transformers: Armada* that is set for release in July and will tie in to an upcoming animated series and toyline.

Describing the *Transformers* projects in comparison to other Dreamwave titles, Lee says, "The feel is more bouncy in terms of an artistic approach, at least with colors. It's more vibrant and it is our first actual robot type of book."

There's no question that computers play a much larger role



in the production of comic books today than they did ten years ago. Dreamwave is certainly known for its innovative use of computers in coloring and related effects so that each comic looks like a Japanese anime film on paper.

However, Lee sees the computer merely as a supplement rather than a replacement for the human touch. "You can only do so much with the computer in terms of penciling. For Dreamwave, we mainly use it for coloring and lettering. We do not see our company ever using it as a tool for penciling."

While Lee assures fans that there will be wild battles in the pages of the upcoming series, he is also enthusiastic at the resurrection of '80s properties. "It's great to see all the '80s titles come out into the comic book industry because the public has definitely been waiting for it," says Lee. "Some of the licenses are spread out with different owners attached to the titles, so it's never easy to get these licenses."

For those who love *Transformers: G1* and crave more Autobot versus Decepticon goodness, fear not: this is only the beginning. Lee promises, "There will be six issues per year on *G1* for the next three years." In addition to the comics hitting stores next month, *TF* fans should also be on the lookout for posters, scrolls, lithographs and calendars to join the *Transformers* madness as Dreamwave prepares to unleash the robots in disguise.



Cory Wanless / THE GATEWAY

Sonica's enticing lead singer, Tamara, courted the crowd with electronic rock at the Power Plant last Saturday.

Murphy's law saves the day

FILM PREVIEW

Showtime

Directed by Tom Dey

Starring Robert De Niro and

Eddie Murphy

Now Playing

Leif Oleson-Cormack
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF



Some say good satire becomes what it imitates. This statement is all too true for director Tom Dey's latest film, *Showtime*.

For the first half of the movie, *Showtime* is a hilarious and sometimes biting satire of the buddy-cop films of the past decade.

Unfortunately, halfway through the picture it actually becomes a buddy-cop action movie, where any signs of satire have disappeared.

Robert DeNiro plays Mitch Preston, a straight-laced, no-nonsense Robert DeNiro-like LAPD detective. During a high-stakes shootout, he busts an intrusive television cameraman's equipment in a fit of rage, placing Mitch in a difficult situation.

In lieu of a lawsuit, the television network wants Mitch to become the center of a new *COPS*-style reality TV-show, believing he's just what they need to boost the network's ratings.

Mitch objects, but his department insists, fearing a million-dollar lawsuit and bad publicity. Producer Chase Renzi (René Russo) envisions the show as a buddy-cop series and wants to give Preston a sidekick, "a funny minority type."

Aspiring actor/cop Trey Sellars (Eddie Murphy) is delighted to fill this role.

In preparation for the show, Mitch is given a crash course in acting by TJ Hooker himself, William Shatner, in a hilarious self-deprecating appearance. In these scenes, Trey and Shatner try to instruct the unyielding Mitch in the art of "hood-jumping" and other standard television cop-show moves.

Mitch provides some of the film's best laughs here, pointing out the flaws in the media's depiction of police officers. In one scene, Shatner skillfully demonstrates how to test cocaine by tasting it, as Trey listens attentively. After Shatner tastes the white powder, Mitch asks, "What if it's cyanide?" leaving a worrisome Shatner to fret over the powder's real contents.

After Trey and Mitch get used to each other's quirks, the film sinks to buddy-cop redundancy, as the proverbial "soulless man with unstoppable guns" comes into the story, changing an effective comedy into a superficial action film.

While some of the action

sequences are impressive, they're out of place and unnecessary. The entire third act of the film is rushed, with so many plot points thrown at the viewer the characters become secondary.

Despite the lame plot, the actors manage to raise the quality of the movie to a satisfactory level—especially Murphy who plays Trey flawlessly—the perfect "ham and cheese" actor. De Niro gives another flawless performance as Mitch, although he's not doing anything original, giving basically the same performance that he did in *Meet the Parents*.

The greatest moments in the film arise when Murphy and DeNiro are allowed to play off one another. While the majority of their lines are predictable and familiar, Murphy and DeNiro present them in a fresh and humorous manner.

Showtime's problem is that it doesn't know what it wants to be, concluding with a messy ending that seems to be straight out of a bad buddy-cop movie. Though hampered by this, *Showtime* is a film worth seeing, if only for Murphy and DeNiro's on-screen chemistry.



Robin Black

Planet: Fame

Sextant Records

www.robinblackrocks.com

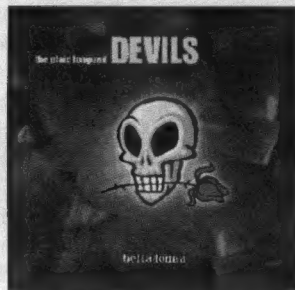
Adam Houston

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

No, Mr Black, you and your competent-at-best glam revival outfit haven't succeeded in saving rock 'n roll.

While you're re-evaluating exactly what "success" means, you might also want to look up the word "hubris."

And as long as you've got the dictionary out, you may as well learn a few more pretentious words to stick into the faux-biography liner notes you inexplicably stole from an episode of *Bucky O'Hare and the Toad Wars*. Unless, of course, you're too busy making yet another album that sounds like a continuous loop of Cheap Trick's "Surrender."



The Plaid Tongued Devils
Belladonna

Label: Pitchfork Productions
www.thedevils.com

Adam Rozenhart

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

Have you ever wondered what it would sound like if David Bowie sang in a ska band? Me neither. But that is precisely what you'll be treated to if you pick up the latest from Calgary's Plaid Tongued Devils.

But wait, there's more. This ska is special. Not only is David Bowie the lead singer (sort of), but these Devils are trying new things as well—namely using a violin and a mandolin. It works, even though the music ends up sounding more folksy than ska.

Regardless of what genre you care to lump these boys into, their music is upbeat and fun. The only point on which this album suffers is length; some of the songs seem to go on and on for no apparent reason other than musical masturbation.

Long musical interludes and fiddle solos may not be your thing. If they aren't, then you might only enjoy one of two of the songs on this album.

However, there's always the chance that the haunting violin sounds will captivate your soul, and there's only one way to find out.

A&E meetings are Thursdays @5:00pm

A&E is Good fer Yer heart

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Deadline June 3, 2002

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Deadline June 3, 2002



Louise McKinney Post-Secondary Scholarships

Field of Study Open

Value \$2,500

Number Approximately 275

Conditions Awarded to Alberta residents attending the University of Alberta based on superior academic achievement (top 1.5 to 2 percent of each Faculty). The University of Alberta's Undergraduate Scholarship Committee will nominate candidates based on a full normal course load taken during the preceding academic year (September 2001 to April 2002).

Apply Students who have completed an undergraduate degree program and are proceeding into another undergraduate or professional program in September 2002, or students who cannot be contacted by mail during the summer, should complete an application. Applications will be available from the Student Awards Office, 103 Administration Building, at the end of April 2002. All other nominees will be sent an application during the summer

Rhodes Scholarships

The Rhodes Scholarship Competition is open to undergraduate and graduate students in any Faculty. These scholarships are tenable at the University of Oxford in England and cover fees, board and lodging, and travel expenses for two years of study. Scholars may follow their own choice of study and are required to attend Oxford in October 2003.

Proven intellectual and academic attainment of a high standard is required.

Candidates must also show integrity of character, sympathy for and protection of the weak, the ability to lead, the energy to use their talents to the full, and participation in sports.

Candidates must be Canadian citizens or persons domiciled in Canada; have been born between October 2, 1978, and October 1, 1984; and have received an undergraduate degree before taking up the scholarship (except medical students).

Applications will be available in the summer. Deadline to apply is October 2002. For more information, contact the Student Awards Office, 103 Administration Building; phone (780) 492-3221.

Resident Evil appeals to video game geeks

FILM REVIEW

Resident Evil

Directed by Paul Anderson
Starring Milla Jovovich and
Michelle Rodriguez
Now Playing

Daniel Kaszor
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF



When geeky mediums hit the silver screen, the results are often shoddy at best. Video game and comic book adaptations are often put together by people who care little about the original source material, and the end result is video store bargain bin dreck. Thankfully, nothing like that happened with *Resident Evil*. Lead actress Milla Jovovich (*The Fifth Element*, *The Messenger*) and director/writer Paul Anderson (*Mortal Kombat*, *Event Horizon*), both huge fans of the game series, conspired to make a movie that didn't suck.

Resident Evil is so faithful to its source material that it's almost detrimental to the film. Almost.

RE is based on the video game series of the same name, and it tries what no other video game adaptation has tried before: continuity with the storyline of the games. Acting as a prequel to the first *Resident Evil* for the Sony Playstation, the movie tells the story of Alice (Jovovich), a security operative for the über-evil Umbrella Corporation.

Umbrella is doing a whole lot of immoral stuff, like creating super-intelligent computers and engineering the insidious T-virus. The

T-virus, among other things, turns corpses into ravenous flesh-hungry zombies.

Unfortunately, the super intelligent computer, which is totally crazy (but what super intelligent computer isn't?), has used a whopping dose of amnesia gas on Alice so she doesn't know where her allegiances lie.

Alice has to make her way out of Umbrella's secret lab with a team of corporate-employed commandos who may or may not be telling her the whole story.

There are some honest scares in *RE*, or at least some decent set-ups for them. Anderson creates an overall mood of tension throughout the entire film, punctuated with specific scenes where something is jumps out from an unseen corner. This is most effective near the beginning of the film, where Alice is looking around the strange mansion that she wakes up in.

The long, empty hallways, strange statues covered in plastic and flock of crows, work together with the creepy score to crank up the fear of monstrosities lurking in the shadows.

The film loses some of this tension as Alice meets the team of commandos. The squad is clearly

too large for this type of movie, which is an obvious sign that most of them are zombie/evil-computer-laser fodder right quick. Whatever the case, as the movie progresses it becomes more focused on action than horror.

And the acting is all that it needs to be. Each character has about as much growth as a cardboard cut-out of a potato, but that's what's expected of the genre. Do we really need to know why character X wants to take down the evil corporation or why character Y wants to sell the T-virus on the open market? Of course not, we already know. One character is good and one is bad, it's as simple as that.

It's simple and effective, unlike the stupid soundtrack by Slipknot and Marilyn Manson, which is invasive and ruins the mood of many scenes.

Another bone of contention is that the story really doesn't make all that much sense unless you've played the games. It's filled with references to the game that will be missed by the casual viewer, such as the "Nemesis" program, which is merely mentioned near the end of the film.

And if this doesn't turn some people off, then the abundant gore just might. The film is bloody and disturbing enough to keep away those expecting something a little more cartoon action-oriented.

But if you like dumb action horror, you might want to check out *Resident Evil*. If you're a fan of the games, then it was made just for you. If not, go check out an Oscar-nominated flick that doesn't feature a guy getting sliced to pieces by a laser.

CULTURA OBSCURA



Stick it to Osama Voodoo Doll

Iva Cheung
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

Can't get over your rage against Osama Bin Laden? For only \$9.95 US, you can channel your wrath

towards the "Stick it to Osama" voodoo doll, which comes with three black pins to facilitate your remote torture. So you know where to stick the pins, the polyester stuffed cotton doll is helpfully decorated with a crude rendering of Bin Laden's face and a bull's eye on his torso.

If you're seething with fury but Osama's not your intended target, the company that manufactures the Osama dolls also stocks a personalizable faceless variant of the glorified pincushion. It's equipped with a transparent plastic pouch in which you are free to insert a photo of your choice. Now, instead of having to purchase a doll for each of your archenemies, you only need to buy one, and swap pictures of your enemies at whim. How's that for versatility?

SITE UNSEEN



www.dirtylori.com

James Elford
CIRCULATION MANAGER

Striking fear into the hearts of young, sober men everywhere, Dirty Lori expounds the virtues of an ageing and vibrant sex life on her website. A supporter of drunk

and horny older women, she organises local "cougar club crawls" where fresh meat can get mauled by their elders. Watch Out!

Apparently she's a minor local celebrity for her regular appearances on our local classic rock stations, where audience demographic ensures she's reaching those who empathise with her lifestyle.

While I'm all for women reclaiming their sexuality, there's something creepy about this site. Maybe it's the glamour shot of her wearing only a leopard print coat, or maybe it is the Q & A part that includes this gem: "Favourite #? 68 so you owe me one." Classy.

This website is a reminder of what can happen if young people's parents are allowed to run free in the night, instead of living the sexless, troll-like life of their parents. Ahh... the good old days.

SU
Elections



Official Results

President (votes):

Nobody 323
Slomp, George 1115
Hudema, Mike 1869
Selleck, Tom 560
Sharun, Jon 775
Agur, Colin 478
Jones, Chris 380

Academic:

Hildebrandt, Shawn 588
Pepin, Alexis 1774
Brechtel, Mat 2070
Kotovych, Roman 746

External:

Jenkins, Sam 1468
Tsang, Alan 1002
Sharma, Anand 2409

Ops and Finance:

Dixon, Geoff 636
Darling, Brendan 340
Flores, Manuel 268
Smith, Steve 1154
Finegan, Donal 1126
Cook, Adam 1146

Student Life:

Rogerson, Christine 2255
Ross, Kail 2348

BOG:

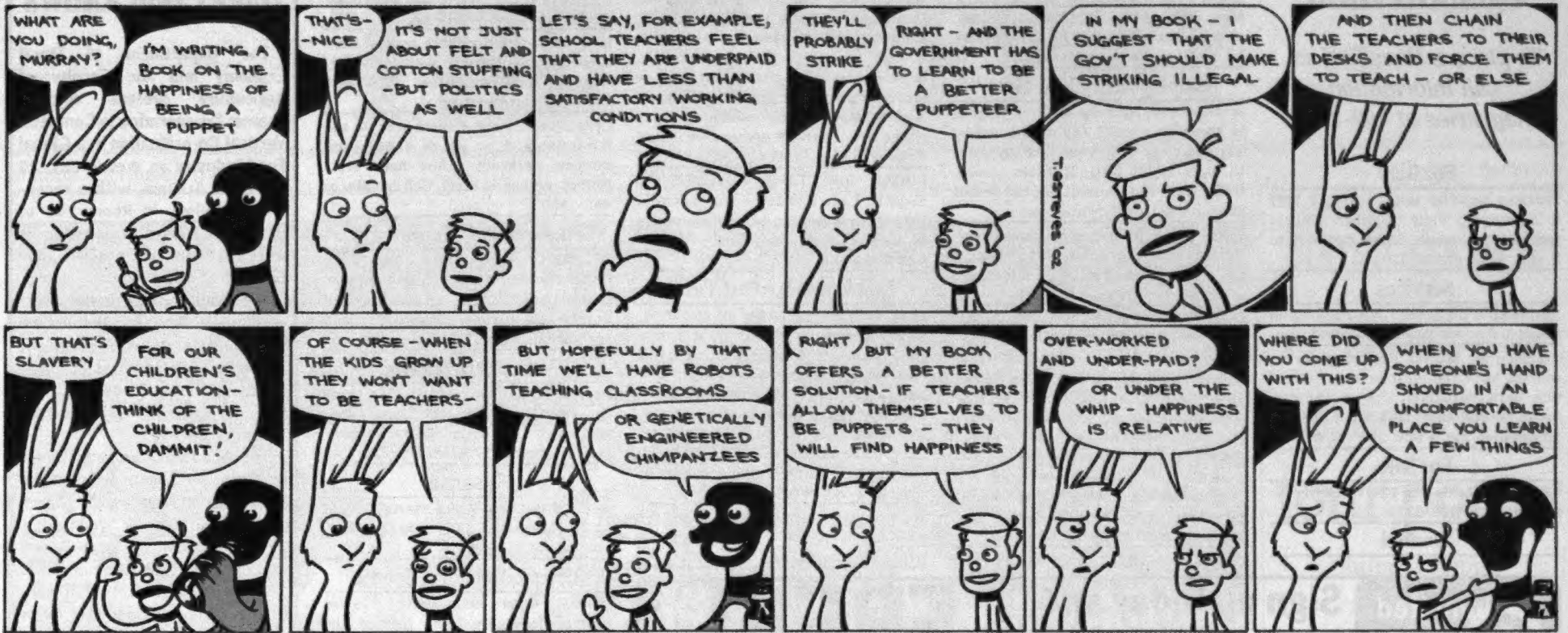
Fiorito, Lorenzo 1612
Reid, Mike 3180

Gateway Referendum:

Yes 3393
No 1358

For more information: cro@su.ualberta.ca
www.su.ualberta.ca

Cigarro and Cerveja by Tony "the Boner" Esteves



www.cigvejy.com

Varsity Happenings by Bill Benson



Whiteout by C and J



Brooklyn by Alexasaurus Labarda



CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad,
call Information
Registries at 492-4212

For Rent

Spacious bachelor suite renting 1 May to 31 August. Fully furnished. Fitness centre. \$700/month. Seven min walk to U of A. Hafiz at 907-5701.

Services

"Drinking a problem?" AA meeting on campus. For info, phone 424-5900

Prepping for MCAT? Princeton Review courses offer the most personal attention, best instructors, and best results. All materials yours to keep! For more information, call 1-800-2REVIEW.

For Sale

Inglis apartment sized 120 Volt dryer for sale - \$80 call 903-9722

Wanted

Rugby Players Wanted! Edmonton Pirates Rugby Club is looking for new members. Men, women, beginners, or superstars, all are welcome. Call 473-1331 for more information. www.piratesrugby.ca

Employment - Full Time

Interested in teaching children English in Korea for a year? You need a university degree or be in your final semester to apply. \$2200 CAD, 30 hours a week, free airfare and housing. For full details email me at ian@drskorea.com

Cruise Line entry level on board positions available, great benefits, Seasonal or year round. Call 323-644-2102. www.cruisejobs.com

GOLF FREE AND GET PAID!! Coloniale Golf and Country Club is offering excellent opportunities for reliable, courteous and self-motivated people for the following departments. CLUBHOUSE: servers, short order cooks, bartenders. PROSHOP: customer service agents, backshop/drying range supervisors, general maintenance staff. Competitive wages and free golf offered to successful applicants. Forward your resume and posting you are applying for ASAP by fax 929-2540. SUMMER PAINTING POSITIONS Earn

10.96-16.44/hour plus bonuses (7000-12000) for summer with Certa ProPainters. We are a professional (not student based) painting company with 6 years experience in Edmonton. This summer, work for a company with a proven track record. Free first aid certification. Minimum one summer of experience and a vehicle are required. Fax Resume to Ryan Frost 408-3030.

PHONE DIRECTORY ADVERTISING SALES. Earn \$20,000+ this summer. Only those motivated by an opportunity in outside sales need apply. 1-877-422-8800.

Employment - Part Time

Ekos Research is looking for confident, outgoing people to be involved in leading social/policy research. All candidates must have strong communication skills and a confident, friendly telephone demeanor. We provide full 2-day training at our starting wage of \$8.50/hr. For more information about Ekos and job opportunities, please visit our website at www.ekos.com or call 408-5225.

Want to graduate debt free? Looking for an on-line business? www.theanswersto.com/rightnow

Keegans Restaurant requires EXPERIENCED servers and line cooks. Apply in person 8709-109St.

Now Hiring P/T Sandwich artists. Earn extra \$\$\$\$. Scholarship available. Apply Subway 10652-82 Avenue. Or Email subway@telusplanet.net

Great student work. Experienced DJ and DJ trainees. Earn up to \$600/month working weekends. Must have dress clothes. Vehicle an asset. Call Jennifer at 465-1280.

Employment - Temporary

STUDENT MANAGER POSITIONS University First Class Painters requires students to run established franchise outlets for the summer. Information and applications are on-line at www.ufcp.ca.

Volunteers Wanted

Healthy Volunteers wanted. For study on emotions. Expenses paid. Call 407-6626, leave message for information. University of Alberta Hospital.

Personals

PUB CRAWL 23 March starts at 7pm @Stonehouse Pub. \$15=ticket + tshirt. Call Dawn 423-1725

Three Lines For A Toonie

North American Table Tennis Championships are being held at the Education Gym on 6 & 7 April. Come check out this fast and exciting sport!!!

Aline: Mam nonga fo! -Yan.

Congrats to the incoming bunch of Gateway editors. Next year will be lovely, indeed. -Iain.

feature + infinity + last minute = bad

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FLFA is looking for caring, mature, responsible, committed, and dedicated individuals to work with preschool and school aged children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

You will be implementing programs one-on-one within a child's home and/or community setting. Training provided. Weekday, weekend and evening sessions are available (7-35 hours/week). Locations throughout Edmonton and surrounding areas. Must be flexible. Special Needs experience is an asset.

Forward a resume and cover letter with hours of availability and pay expectations to: Shelley Chen, #200, 18216-102 ave., Edmn, AB, T5S 1S7, Fax: 780-488-6664, Email: schen@familylinkages.ca.

Positions will remain open until suitable candidates are found.

ASTRONOWATCH

Another week is upon us. Think of it as another chance to see what percentage of your assignments you can get done, while still making it to the 'Plant.

I'll get right to the good stuff, as there is lots to see this week...

Comet Ikeya-Zhang is easily visible in binoculars towards the end of twilight low in the west. You can locate it to the lower right of Mars, the bright red 'star' in the low west. It should remain visible low in the west at dusk for another couple of weeks, maybe brightening a bit further. This is a rare treat, and you should make time to see it. Maybe drive outside the city this weekend and take a look.

Tonight you will be able to see the waxing crescent moon shine near Saturn, found to the moon's upper left.

On Saturday, look up before you enter those swinging saloon doors, and you'll be

able to see a cool diagonal line in the twilight sky.

The Moon, Jupiter, Saturn, Mars and Venus will be visible this evening, in this order, from upper left to lower right. If you own an amateur telescope, this'll be the night to break it out.

Finally, spring will happen at exactly 12:36 PM MST on Wednesday the 20th. I expect all the snow to instantly melt and daffodils to sprout.

No silly, it's not astrology; it's astronomy. *AstronoWatch* is a weekly feature published every Tuesday. Our resident astronomer, Kati Kovacs, sets the stage for the cosmos and invites you up to the Campus Observatory every Thursday evening at 8:00pm. Just take the elevator in the Physics Building up to the sixth floor and then the stairs up to the seventh floor. Walk out on to the roof and check out the view with the University's telescopes.

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EARN!

Are you so ready to get the L out of the learning mode?

So, you've just about got your degree, and life's about to hand you a toss-up question: Do you continue with your formal learning, or get the "L" out and try earning a living doing who knows what? Well, if you are a student who excelled in and enjoyed researching and writing papers—a person who would rise happily every morning to the challenge of helping an organization communicate more effectively with its various audiences—then there's another option you may want to consider: a career in public relations, and you can be ready for it in just 10 months.

The public relations career diploma program at Grant MacEwan College is geared for the university graduate. We take 30 credits from your university learning, apply them to the two-year diploma requirement and then put you on a 10-month fast track to becoming a fully functional, entry-level public relations practitioner. No filler courses. No nurturing as if you were just out of high school. It's a challenge for the best of university students, and it's a challenge that has led more than 90% of graduates to full-time employment in less than a year.

Sound like a good way to turn your learning into earning? Visit our Web site for more information on the public relations industry, the diploma program and how you can become a practising PR professional in just ten months. And be sure to check us out at MacEwan's Career Nights, April 3, 5-9 p.m. at the City Centre Campus.

Grant MacEwan College

Public Relations Diploma Program
www.business.gmcc.ab.ca/pr/
497-5389

HAPPY BOB KNOWS

The Department of Rural Economy and the Faculty of Agriculture present Andrew Fearn: Co-operating to Compete: Vertical Co-ordination in a Global Food Industry on Wednesday, 20 March at 3:30pm, with a reception to follow, in Room 238 of the Telus Centre. Admission is free. For more info contact Judy Boucher at 492-0271.

The English Department presents a Reading by well-known writer and storyteller, Vi Plotnikoff on Friday, 22 March at 2:00pm, in Humanities L-3. Admission is free. For more info contact Julie Rak at 492-4148.

The Academic Support Centre presents an Exam Preparation Workshop on Tuesday, 26 March from 1 to 2:30pm or Wednesday, 27 March from 4 to 5:30pm, in Education 255. Admission is \$20 for UofA Students, \$40 otherwise. This workshop will cover how to prepare for and take essay, short answer, multiple choice and problem-solving exams. You must pre-register. For more info contact the Academic Support Centre at 492-2682.

UAWise presents a Panel Discussion on Tuesday, 26 March from 5 to 7pm in the Biological Sciences Conference Room (CW 410). Admission is free and pizza will be provided. This year's theme is "What are you going to do after your degree?" Women speak on their successful careers and lives in science and engineering. Learn from their diverse experiences, ask questions, and make valuable contacts. Everyone is welcome. For more info contact UAWise at uawise@ualberta.ca.

A Representative from the Consulate General of Japan presents an Information Session about Scholarships and Working in Japan on Tuesday, 26 March from 11am to 12:30pm in the Arts Theatre (Room 141). Come find out about the many scholarship opportunities available through the Japanese Ministry of Education and learn about the JET Programme.

The Human Ecology Students Association presents Drop-In Sewing on Wednesday, 20 March from 5 to 7pm in Human Ecology 1-10. Admission is free w/ your \$5 HESA membership, \$2 otherwise. Drop-in sewing is for beginner to advanced sewers. Finish that old project or start a new one. Please bring your own supplies. For more info contact the HESA.

The International Centre presents "Take off!" on Tuesday, 26 March at 5pm at the International Centre (172 HUB). Admission is free. Explore your options to study, work or volunteer abroad in this 50-minute session. Specific information regarding the UofA's exchange programs will be available, with staff on hand to answer questions. For more info contact Sherilyn Trompeter at 492-0089.

H&K is a service provided for Registered Student Groups and University Departments only. H&K is only printed in the Tuesday editions of the Gateway each week. H&K does not publish events that are weekly, on-going, or not open to the public. Incomplete forms will not be submitted. Submissions will print for one issue only. Entry deadline is 3:00pm Fridays (submit your entry on the Friday before the issue you wish it to appear in). Submit to Information Registries (030-A, Lower level SUB) or to any Information Desk.